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CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

## INFORMATION REPORT

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COUNTRY	USSR (Baltic)	REPORT	
SUBJECT	Soviet Naval Vessels in the Baltic Sea	DATE DISTR.	22 September 1954
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This is UNEVALUATED Information

THE SOURCE EVALUATIONS IN THIS REPORT ARE DEFINITIVE.  
THE APPRAISAL OF CONTENT IS TENTATIVE.  
(FOR KEY SEE REVERSE)

1. [redacted] Soviet vessel ALAGES [redacted] on 24 March 1954 in position N 56-39, E 20-19. [redacted] the vessel was an ex-German ship of the M-40 type. The vessel was flying the Soviet naval flag and the naval pennant, and it was painted gray. The name ALAGES was painted on the bow with white letters on a blue field. [redacted] Two international signal flags "Z" were flying under one another from one of the yardarms. These flags were hauled down as [redacted] ship approached. [redacted] the vessel was equipped as a diver-ship, as it had hoisting apparatus over the stern.
2. About four nautical miles north of N 56-39, E 20-19 [redacted] three minesweepers of the T-43 Class and one submarine of SHCH-IV Class. The minesweepers [redacted] were extremely clean and well-maintained. There was a twin 20-mm gun on the after edge of both sides of the signal bridge on each of the minesweepers. Each vessel had a twin 40-mm gun both fore and aft; these guns were not located in turrets but were protected by shields. Minesweeper [redacted]
3. The submarine [redacted] was painted light gray. A gun was located on the deck in front of the conning tower. On the deck there were four heavy stays which were half as high as the conning tower; two stays were located forward of the conning tower and two were located aft. On top of the conning tower there was a heavy stay [redacted] resembling a periscope but the stay did not have the narrow diameter characteristic of periscopes. All the stays were rusted. The submarine submerged when [redacted] ship passed the area.

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4. The three minesweepers and the submarine were in line formation. The submarine was in front of the formation, which proceeded in a northerly direction. At 1130 hours the formation altered course and turned to a southerly course at a slow speed.
5. Two of the minesweepers signaled visually to [ ] ship. When this signal was not answered, minesweeper [ ] moved closer to vessel [ ] and exchanged semaphore signals. The control signal (sic) and the antennas were not covered on either vessel.
6. At 1520 hours on 24 March at N 56-03, E 19-45, [ ] ship passed a salvage vessel. [ ] it was an ex-German M-Class vessel. The salvage vessel was passed at a distance of about one nautical mile; [ ] the vessel was on a course of 060 and was proceeding at about 15 knots in the direction of Liepaja. [ ] The vessel was unarmed and [ ] a number of red barrels or buoys on the side deck. The ship was flying the Soviet naval pennant, and on one of the yardarms the Soviet naval flag was displayed.
7. On numerous occasions on 29 March 1954, [ ] two loud detonations in rapid succession. These sounds were heard through the water as sharp Jinny-like (sic) sounds, which seemed to transmit themselves to the hull through the anchor chain. [ ] six such explosions, each consisting of two detonations in rapid succession, within a ten minute period; after a five minute pause, [ ] another similar detonation. [ ] these sounds were similar to magnetic mine detonations.
8. [ ]
9. At 1600 hours on 30 March 1954, at N 55-50, E 20-05 [ ] a naval formation consisting of the following vessels:
- Two large vessels, possibly destroyers of the SILNYY Class.
  - Six destroyers, possibly of the BC Class (sic).
  - Four MTBs of the glide type.
  - One submarine of an unknown type. The submarine submerged about three nautical miles north [ ] after the formation had passed.
10. Two twin-engined seaplanes were observed flying over the above formation at a low altitude. Two jet aircraft were also observed at a higher altitude.
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